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son with the most densely populated countries of Europe, Belgium, for instance, this number (353 persons to the square mile) is insignificant, Japan being capable of containing a much larger population." It is statistically untrue that "Japan increases every year in a manner unknown in Europe, even in Germany and Russia." The death-rate in Japan is 20 per 1000, the birth-rate 33+, natural annual increase 1 1/3 per cent.

The translation leaves something to be desired. We meet with "quantities of villages," "The Japanese do not surrender themselves to this class of fishing," "Shadow of Parliamentarism" for "appearance of Parliamentarism." Nevertheless, in addition to presenting quantities of minute information (e g. describing six varieties of Japanese mushrooms, 30 varieties of useful woods, and 19 kinds of lacquer), the author abounds in sound and impartial judgments. His appraisal of Japanese family life, military spirit, literacy, commercial morality, government, industrial prospects, and trade future tally with the conclusions of an independent observer.

EDWARD ALSWORTH ROSS.

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Wirtschaftsstudien aus Südamerika, speziell über Chile. By RUDOLF DUNKER. (Leipzig: Duncker and Humblot. 1910. Pp. 200.)

This monograph of two hundred pages devoted chiefly to the financial, banking and monetary history and conditions of Chili, is based upon four years of experience in connection with banking establishments in that country. The author gives us, with a wealth of technical detail, the history of Chilean industry since 1904, including a full account of the speculations and paper money issues of the boom period of 1905-1907, and ending in the crisis of 1907. In the history of the fluctuations of foreign exchange during this period, ample explanation is given why all foreign trade is a highly speculative proposition.

A section is devoted to the organization of the saltpeter market, including an explanation of the contracts between producers and dealers, an account of various combinations, and a statement of the financial aid rendered the industry by the government. Public finance is interestingly dealt with, and the data offered afford a mine of illustration for university classes studying that subject. Chili has a chronic deficit in her budget, which is as chronically

covered by the issue of paper money. The country is a persistent borrower abroad, offering as security the income from saltpeter taxes and from export and import duties. The borrowings are ostensibly for public works, but much of the money never finds its equivalent in completed projects. It is not surprising, therefore, that a large program of future projects still remains, on which to justify future loans.

EDWARD D. JONES.

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Grundriss der allgemeinen Wirtschafts-und Verkehrsgeographie.

By JOSEF STOISER. (Vienna and Leipzig: Karl Fromme. 1910. Pp. vi, 95.)

This little volume can hardly be regarded as a new treatise covering the whole field of economic or commercial geography; rather it is merely an outline of what the author conceives to be the subject-matter of a study which for some time has been well-recognized in the leading countries of Europe. Somewhat more than one-half of the book is first given over to a consideration of such topics as usually are found in works on physical geography. Man is then introduced as the agent in the utilization of the world's natural resources of the vegetable, animal and mineral kingdoms. The evolution of exchange, the organization of trade, the plant which has been developed to facilitate the distribution of commodities, and a sketch of the world's trade are among the later matters considered. The book is largely free from statistical tables and contains much in the line of elaboration of principles. The author is a professor in the Handelsakademie of Vienna.

AVARD L. BISHOP.

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Das Moselland und die westdeutsche Eisenindustrie. I. By MAX SERING and others. II. By HERMAN SCHUMACHER. (Leipzig: Duncker und Humblot. 1910. Pp. 204, 153. 4 and 3 m.)

These volumes preserve the lectures of a *Studienreise* into the Moselle region conducted in the spring of 1910 under the auspices of the Berlin *Vereinigung für staatswissenschaftliche Fortbildung*. The eight lectures of the first volume, by Professor Sering and others, constitute a *Kulturgeschichte* of the region in general and of the cities of Treves and Metz in particular. Em-